GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – Forest Department – Disciplinary action against Sri A. Sridhar, FSO(Retd) formerly worked as FSO, Logging Range-II, Jangareddigudem of Rajahmundry Circle, on the allegations of misappropriation of Rs. 2,45,585/- in maintenance of approach roads in Bamboo Coupes – imposition of a penalty of 10% cut in pension permanently besides recovery of Rs.2501/- Show-Cause-Notice Issued– Explanation received – Final Orders Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.IV) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 64 Dated: 05-07-2016

Read the following:

1. From the DG., (Vig. & Enft.) & E.O. Vigilance Report No.111, dt. 4.10.2004.
2. G.M. No. 8207/For.IV/2004-1, dt. 14.2.2005.
3. From the PCCF, Lr. Rc. No. 7389/2005/P4, dt. 13.3.2005.
4. G.M. No. 8207/For.IV/2004-2, dt. 24.6.2006.
5. From the PCCF, Ref. No. 7389/2005/PXA-1, dt. 2.7.2006.
6. G.O. Rt. No. 549, EFS&T(For.IV) Dept., dt. 8.12.2011
7. G.M. No. 8207/For.IV/A1/2004-8, dt. 4.6.2013.
8. From the PCCF, Ref. No. 7389/2005/K3, dt. 15.7.2013.
9. G.M. No. 8207/For.IV/A1/2004, dt. 7.2.2015.
10. From the PCCF, Ref. No. 7389/2005/Vig-1, dt. 7.3.2015.
11. G.M. No. 8207/For.IV/A1/2004, dt.16.05.2016
12. Explanation dt. 16.05.2016 of the Charged Officer.
13. Govt. Lr. No. 8207/For.IV/A1/2004, dt.23.05.2016
14. From the Prl. Secretary, APPSC, Lr. No. 372/DC&C/2/2016, dt. 23.06.2016.

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In the reference 3rd read above, departmental action was initiated against Sri A. Sridhar, FSO(Retd) formerly worked as FSO, Logging Range-II, Jangareddygudem for misappropriation of Rs. 42,688/- in maintenance of approach roads & extraction paths in Bamboo coupes of Forest Logging Division, Jangareddigudem and Article of Charges was issued against Sri A. Sridhar, FSO on the following counts:

Article:

That he exhibited gross neglect of duty by:

a) Recording false measurements in M.Book and misappropriate the Government funds to a tune of Rs.42,688/-
b) Paid for erection of shed without recording in M.Book.

2. The Government, vide G.O.Rt.No.549, EFS&T (For.IV) Department, dated:8.12.2011, appointed Sri Lingaraj Panigrahi IAS, Commissioner of Inquiries, as Inquiry Authority.

3. The Inquiring Authority in the enquiry report has stated that the temporary thatched sheds were actually erected by the labour contractor utilizing some of the labourers during execution of the work. Therefore, it need not be recorded in the M. Book. However, as seen from the record, the payments were made for erection of thatched shed. Work done was not measured in M.Book, but certain other works were shown in M.Book due to certain practical difficulties. Neither the V&E team nor the subsequent

Departmental inspection has clearly quantified the work actually done to arrive at the misappropriated amount. There is likelihood that the work done is less than the work recorded and paid for. In absence of the exact figure, it can not be conclusively stated that the amount indicated against each individual C.O., is misappropriated. If, the department has necessary ability to arrive at exact figure they may do so and to that extent charges can be substantiated. Otherwise benefit of doubt is given to the Charged Officers. The Inquiry Report was received from the Commissioner of Inquiries vide D.O. Lr. No. 384/COI.LP/2011-1, dt.14.2.2012 and the same was communicated to the C.O, he has submitted his further defense statement dt.19.5.2012. The PCCF has stated that there are no new points put forth by the Charged Officer.

4. The Charged Officer retired from service on attaining the age of superannuation. However, the disciplinary proceedings have continued under Rule 9(1) of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

5. After careful examination of the matter, with reference to the findings of the Inquiry Officer, the remarks of the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, and material made available, it is observed that the charges framed against the Charged Officer are held proved and it was provisionally decided to impose a penalty of 10% cut in pension permanently, besides recovery of Rs.2501/-against Sri A. Sridhar, FSO(Retd.) formerly worked as FSO, Range-II, Jangareddigudem, under rule 9 (1) of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

6. Accordingly a Show-Cause-Notice was issued to the retired officer vide reference 11th read above. The Charged officer in his explanation dt. 16.05.2016, has agreed to the proposed penalty in the show cause notice.

7. Government, after careful examination of the matter, hereby order to impose a penalty of 10% cut in pension permanently, besides recovery of Rs.2501/- against Sri A. Sridhar, FSO(Retd) formerly worked as FSO, Range-II, Jangareddigudem, under rule 9 (1) of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

8. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P. Hyderabad shall take action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

P.V.RAMESH
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P., Hyderabad.
The Individual (through Principal Chief Conservator of Forests).

Copy to:
The Accountant General (A&E) A.P., Hyderabad.
The Director of Treasuries & Accounts, Hyderabad, A.P.
The Principal Secretary, A.P. Public Service Commission, Hyderabad
(with ref. to Lr.No.372/DC&C/2/2016, dt.23.06.2016).

Sf./Sc.

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER